

## V.I.P. NEWS

Dear Volunteers:

Happy 2020!! As we start the new year, let us remember that we are here to provide learning and leadership opportunities to young people. Our purpose is for children to learn, feel good about themselves and others and have fun. I'd like to update you on a few items. If you have any questions or concerns, give me a call or email.

Sincerely,

*Beth Miller*

Elizabeth M. Miller

Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

Auglaize County

### Membership Requirements

Ohio 4-H membership is based on a child's age AND grade as of January 1 of the current calendar year. Eligibility for Cloverbud participation begins when a child is age 5 and enrolled in kindergarten. Eligibility for participation in 4-H projects and competitive events begins when a child is age 8 and in third grade. Any youth age 9 or above is eligible for project membership, regardless of grade level. Membership requires enrollment in an authorized 4-H club or group under the direction of an OSU Extension professional or an approved adult volunteer. A youth's 4-H eligibility ends December 31 the year he or she turns 19.

### Advisor Child Protection Training

All returning volunteers need to complete the Policy 1.50 Child Protection training through 4-H Online or by attending the face to face training on the following date: Sunday, March 8, 3:30 p.m. (following the 4-H banquet). ***Remember if you are using the 4-H Online option be sure your training says "completed"***. Training must be completed by April 15, 2020.

### Advisor Rescreens

If this is your year to be rescreened, remember you need to be re-enrolled on the database and have your fingerprints taken by January 31, 2020 to remain an advisor.

### Advisor Re-enrollment

Every advisor must re-enroll through 4-H Online, including acceptance of the current Volunteer Standards of Behavior by April 15, 2020 to be an approved volunteer. ***We cannot make you active on the database until we have your online re-enrollment and child protection training complete.***

### Organizational Volunteer Training

There will be a meeting for organizational advisors (or their representative) on February 17, 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room, second floor of the Auglaize Co. Administration Building (across the street from our office). There will be important updates shared.

### Annual Financial Reports and Club Charters

A reminder that your club's financial summary and equipment inventory are due by January 31. We will not process your members' enrollment without these forms. Club charter checklists are due by April 15.

**4-H Committee Parent Rep**

The 4-H Advisory Committee is looking for parent representation. There is one parent representative per district. Parent representatives may not be advisors, and must have children enrolled in the program. They are elected by ballot at the banquet like all other committee reps. Parents must be nominated by an advisor of the club in which their child is enrolled. ***If you are in District I and have a parent who you feel would be a good representative, please contact them and ask to have their name placed on the ballot.*** All names should be submitted to me by February 10th. You have some great parents out there, ask them to become involved! We need advisor representation for all districts, please let us know if you would be interested in serving.

**New Advisors**

If you have new advisors, they must complete an application, BCI screening, schedule an interview and complete child protection training. This process must be complete by April 15 for them to appear on your club roster for 2020. This is at least a 6-8 week process to complete so please submit applications soon! It would be ideal to have everyone in process by March 1!

**New Member Recruitment**

We will be contacting all 3rd and 4th graders about joining 4-H through informational flyers distributed through the schools. We will have potential new members contact you as they come to us. It helps us to know how many new members you are willing to accept. Organizational advisors, please be sure to return the club survey.

**4-H Recognition Banquet - new!!**

The banquet will be held Sunday, March 8, 1:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds. The banquet is sponsored by the 4-H Committee. The invitation will be sent out by email in the near future. Please observe the deadline in the invitation so that we can turn in an accurate meal count. Thanks for your cooperation.

**Cross County Membership Applications**

All cross county membership requests need to be submitted AND approved before a member enrolls through 4-H Online. I suggest that these forms be submitted no later than March 15 so that families can make alternate plans if their request is not approved. Please review the acceptable reasons for requesting a cross county membership.

**Calendars and Family Guides**

The 4-H calendars and Family Guides are in the club mailboxes. We have allotted one per family of both. Officer books can be picked up at the office or printed from the state 4-H website. Each family will receive the project requirements - section 7 by email.



**Food Safety Program**

If your club does fund raising with food products, advisors must be certified in Food Safety. Certification is required every 5 years. The course is online, contact the office for information. A **reminder that bake sale** items must list the ingredients on every package. You don't have to share great aunt Suzie's secret recipe, BUT you must list all ingredients for potential food allergy concerns. Also each package must be labeled "Made in a home kitchen" in a minimum of a 10 point font.

### **Ohio 4-H Project Central!**

Members and project helpers can preview project books AND share feedback about their project experiences on a new website called Ohio 4-H Project Central. Check out the website now at [www.ohio4h.org/projectcentral](http://www.ohio4h.org/projectcentral) for easy instructions and a direct link.

### **Horse Safety Program**

The horse safety program is required for all new horse members. Clubs will be conducting these sessions. If you are not a “horse” club but have horse members, you will either need to offer the program or arrange for your members to go to another club’s training.

### **Weather Note**

Please listen to WCSM or call the office before 4:30 p.m. for weather cancellations. Cancellations will also be posted on our website during the week. For weekend events, we will notify the radio station and *try* to get it posted on our website and WLIO, Lima. We will post information of our 4-H Facebook page as well. If it is a committee meeting and we can make the decision early in the day, we may try to send an email out to the group. I do not hesitate to cancel meetings when the road conditions are questionable, especially meetings that involve youth.

**Have you returned your Advisor Interest Sheet? If not, please do!! Don't keep us guessing regarding your plans for 2020.**

### **Cloverbud Clubs**

A few reminders about cloverbud club guidelines:

1. Cloverbud clubs are to teach lessons from the new revised Cloverbud curriculum, which can be purchased from our office. There is also a cloverbud horse curriculum.
2. Cloverbud lessons are designed to be active and group oriented. “Group” implies that more than one child is to be enrolled in your cloverbud club.
3. Any club having cloverbuds must designate a minimum of one volunteer that specifically works with the cloverbuds. That is not to say other advisors don’t jump in occasionally but you must have an approved cloverbud leader. It is suggested you have 1 volunteer for every 6-7 youth but parents can help fill this role.

*We are going to be doing a new type of yearlong cloverbud activity this year. It will have a fair participation component but we will not be doing a scavenger hunt or show and tell event. We hope that you will use this idea in your club. Every cloverbud completing the activity will receive a completion award! More details will be coming soon!*

## Auglaize Co. Fair - August 2-8

### 2020 Fair Changes

Check your fair book for complete details. See March Gazette for any additions or changes to this information.

**REMINDER FOR LIVESTOCK:** Exhibitors must care for their animals until they are loaded off the fairgrounds. For market animals, if it is determined at load out that the animal has lacked food and/or water, a penalty will be deducted from the value of the animal: \$25.00 for steers, lambs, goats and hogs, \$10.00 for rabbits and poultry. This decision will be made by the packer and representatives from the Sale Committee. For breeding animals, if it is determined that the animal has lacked food and/or water, the exhibitor will not receive a fair pass the following year. This will be the decision of the Junior and Senior Fair Board superintendents of the department. Please stress to your members - care of their animals is never optional!!

**Late arrival/early dismissal violations:** livestock arriving late or leaving early without prior permission will be fined \$50.00 per exhibitor, payable in cash by December 1 of the year of the rule violation. If the fine is not paid by that date, the exhibitor will be ineligible for placings the following year.

### Quality Assurance

*First year QA members ages 8 to 11 as of January 1, must have **a parent** attend a quality assurance program. First year QA members 12 and over are not required to have a parent attend and may choose the test out option or program attendance.*

\*If a parent is required to attend a quality assurance with their first year member and they attend an out of county program - **written** proof from the sponsor must be submitted by the parent as proof of attendance.

**REMINDER:** All QA must be completed by June 10, 2020. No exceptions.

The following dates and times have been set for the Junior Fair Building:

**Sessions** - all at 7:00 p.m. - Thursday, February 27, Tuesday, March 31, Wednesday, May 27.

**Testing** - Saturday, February 8, 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 1, 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday, May 12 - 7:00 p.m.

*Test Out Option:* Members, ages 12-14, can test out of Quality Assurance for up to three years. This means a child who passes the QA test would not have to take the test again until they reach the 15-18 age division. Members, ages 15-18, can test out of QA permanently. A member must take the test at the scheduled time and achieve a score of 70% or higher to test out of the program. Members failing to test out of QA participation will be required to attend a QA program for that year. They may attempt to test out of the program again the following year. There is no testing option for members ages 8 to 11.

**SHOWMANSHIP CHANGE FOR ALL SPECIES:**

Showmanship sign up will be done as part of Fairentry online beginning in 2020. Exhibitors must enter their showmanship class online by July 1. Entries can be scratched after July 1 (as with any entry) but will face a late entry penalty is added after July 1. Best advice - tell all of your members to sign up for showmanship by July 1!

**Department Changes:** No rule changes for the following departments: Dairy, Demonstrations, Sheep

**Beef:** carcass fee matches carcass processing fee. Add 3-5 overall ribbons to carcass awards. Carcass results and rate of gain winners will be announced at the beginning of the steer show.

**Clothing:** there will be 1 modeling award per age category. Two achievement awards will be given. The style review will begin at 1:00 p.m. and run continuously, there will not be set times given per project. Members must attend judging and style review to receive a premium.

**Goat:** add dairy market goat does not compete for Best Doe in Show. This is not new rule, clarifying how show is run.

**Horses:** consider adding ranch riding (8-18) to pleasure show. Notes: Members need to follow uniform rules about what classes they can/cannot enter such as Western and Ranch Pleasure. Need to follow showmanship entry rules and also not enter two horses in some riding classes. All entries will be final on July 1.

**King and Queen:** coronation will be held Monday, 6:00 p.m. in the Gospel Tent.

**Nutrition:** Two achievement awards will be given.

**Poultry:** barn supervision will be added. Supervision will not be scheduled on show day.

**Rabbit:** show will begin at 9:00 a.m.

**Showmanship Sweepstakes:** only the winner is announced, scores are not revealed. This is not new rule, just clarifying how contest is run.

**Special Interest:** add vet science trophy

**Swine:** there are new rules regarding the feeding of Paylean. More details will be shared when final information is available.

## Calendar of Events

### FEBRUARY

- 6 - Junior Fair Board - 7:30 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 8 - QA Testing, 8:30 a.m., Fairgrounds
- 13 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Ext. Office
- 17 - Organizational Advisor Meeting - 7:00 p.m.,  
Co. Admin. Building
- 19 - Sale Committee, 7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 25 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Ext. Office
- 27 - Quality Assurance - 7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds



### MARCH

- 5 - Junior Fair Board - 7:30 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 8 - 4-H Banquet - 1:00 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 8 - Child Protection Training - 3:30 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 10 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Ext. Office
- 12 - 4-H Committee - 7:00 p.m., Ext. Office
- 14 - Ohio 4-H Conference - Columbus
- 24 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Ext. Office
- 31 - Quality Assurance - 7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds



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